

## TAFT WILL GET

## WAR PORTFOLIO

Secretary Root to Step Down and Out of the Cabinet.

## CHANGE COMES IN JANUARY

## ROOSEVELT MAKES AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Aug. 25.—Secretary Root, under date of Aug. 19, presented his resignation formally to the president. The resignation was accepted by the president with the understanding that Mr. Root continue as secretary of war at least until Jan. 1. Governor William H. Taft of the Philippines will succeed Secretary Root as secretary of war.

President Roosevelt today authorized the following statement:

"The president some months ago tendered the secretaryship of war to Judge Taft and at that time it was arranged that he would succeed Secretary Root. Secretary Root will get out of office some time in January and Judge Taft will assume the duties of the office shortly afterward.

Secretary Root's letter of resignation follows:

"Dear Mr. President: You have been good to assist in the sufficiency of the reasons for which I have wished to retire to private life as soon as practicable after the establishment of the general staff of the army and the completion of my full four years of service as secretary of war. While it is understood that you will probably not arrange to fill the office until some time before the end of the year and that I am to remain in office in the meantime, it is probable that you will be ready to send a name to the president in November or December, before you do my resignation should be in your hands. I find myself on the eve of sailing for England to attend the sessions of the Alaska boundary tribunal, quite unable to judge how many months I shall be kept away from this country, and I therefore now tender my resignation of the office of secretary of war, to take effect upon the appointment and qualification of my successor. I shall carry with me unqualified loyalty to the administration, confidence in the sound conservatism and patriotic usefulness of your policy, and enduring gratitude for the kindness and consideration which your friendship has honored me. I shall not cease to appreciate the sympathy and loyalty to President McKinley with which you took and carried on his work, and I shall always be happy to have been a part of the administration directed by your sincere and rugged adherence to right and devotion to the true interests of the country.

"I am, with great respect and esteem, always, faithfully yours,

"ELIHU ROOT."

"To the President."

## PROMOTION FOR WRIGHT.

Democrat Will Be Governor General of the Philippines.

Oyster Bay, Aug. 25.—General Luke E. Wright of Memphis, Tenn., will succeed Judge Taft as governor general of the Philippines under the new administration.

Secretary of War Root in succession to Secretary Taft, President Roosevelt tonight authorized the following statement:

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## PANAMA CANAL MATTER.

Colombian Senate Has Appointed a Committee of Three.

Washington, Aug. 25.—Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge d'affaires at Washington, tonight received the text of the latest dispatch received by him from Senor Rios, the minister of foreign affairs at Bogota, regarding the Panama canal negotiations. Only a general reference heretofore has been made in the dispatches showing the attitude of Colombia toward the canal project and the appointment of a committee of three to take up the matter. The text of the cablegram which was received in Washington on the 24th and which has been sent to the state department, follows:

"The senate, considering that the Colombian people are entitled to a satisfactory solution of the canal question, has appointed a committee of three senators to devise the manner of satisfying the Colombian desire for the excavation of a Panama canal, harmonizing national interests and law."

## APPEAL OF HUMBERTS.

Paris, Aug. 25.—Mme. Therese Humbert and her husband, Frederic Humbert, have signed an appeal to the court of cassation against the sentence passed on them last Saturday. Emilie and Romain Daurignac have decided not to appeal.

## STAGE HEAD UP.

Spokane, Aug. 25.—Postoffice Inspector Flavin has received a letter that the mail stage between Canon City and Whitney, Ore., was held up last night on Dixie mountain and all the mail taken. No additional details are available here.

## FELL TO HER DEATH.

Denver, Aug. 25.—Miss Mary Jenkins, the 17-year-old daughter of William A. Jenkins, an architect of this city, fell over a steep cliff while climbing a mountain at Decker Springs and was killed.

## We have given a few logical talks on TREE TEA—MEANWHILE, the TEA talks o'er each cup.

TREE TEA

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## MIMIC WAR OFF

## COAST OF MAINE

Much Powder Burned on Shore and Sea.

## FLEET WAS QUICKLY LOCATED

## SEVERAL VESSELS SUNK UNDER THE RULES.

Portland, Me., Aug. 25.—The searchlights at 11:55 p. m. were trained on a warship approaching the harbor entrance, and the batteries at Fort Williams began a heavy cannonade.

Portland, Me., Aug. 25.—Two battleships have been destroyed by shore batteries and thirteen-inch guns at Fort Williams. Other warships can be seen outside the harbor.

Portland, Me., Aug. 25.—The vessels fired upon probably were gunboats or torpedo boat destroyers. Three small vessels were brought into view by the searchlights at 11:55 and one round shot was fired from the six and thirteen-inch guns at Fort Williams, which, according to the rules, sank one vessel. Fort McKinley and Fort Levee each fired one round, each of which sank a vessel, so in all probability three vessels were theoretically destroyed.

Portland, Me., Aug. 25.—At 1:15 a. m. a large vessel, evidently a battleship, came into range and was fired upon by the searchlights at Fort Williams and Fort Levee. The vessel returned the fire on both the Fort Williams and Fort Levee batteries.

The ship appeared to come in a short distance and then stood off to a point opposite the two lights on the cape. General quarters were sounded and the batteries at Fort Williams and Fort Levee fired at the vessel. The ship was seen to be on fire and to be sinking.

The rattle of musketry was heard in the direction of Fort Levee and it was supposed an attempt had been made to land men from the fleet.

At 1:30 a. m. the harbor near Fort Preble was filled with launches from the fleet with landing parties, and the troops defending Fort Preble, the acknowledged key to the harbor defense, were firing from the fort.

The firing at 1:45 a. m. was general from all the forts in the harbor. At 1:45 all the forts had ceased firing except Fort Levee.

Another warship came in opposite Fort Levee at Cushing's island, the divisional headquarters, but soon turned about and withdrew from the harbor. It was supposed the musketry heard at Fort Levee was caused by a landing party from this ship.

The harbor was filled with smoke at 1:30, and when the batteries were engaged the cannonading was deafening. The smoke and thick weather made it almost impossible to observe the movements.

A torpedo boat destroyer came into the harbor and was fired upon by the searchlights at Fort Preble and Fort Levee. The vessel was seen to be on fire and to be sinking.

From the heavy cannonading off Cushing's island heard at 2 o'clock it was supposed a part of the enemy's fleet was attempting to force Whitehead passage between Peaks and Cushing's island.

Portland, Me., Aug. 25.—The attack on Portland by Admiral Barker's combined North Atlantic fleet began promptly at midnight. The fleet was well under way at 1 o'clock. Vessels from the fleet entered the harbor. At least two torpedo boat destroyers were seen. A boat destroyer succeeded in reaching Fort Preble, the innermost fortification and being picked up by searchlights and fired upon.

At 2 o'clock a heavy cannonading from the ships and fortifications had been in progress two hours. A part of the fleet at 2 o'clock was attempting to come through Whitehead passage, one of the available entrance channels to the harbor. The fleet was well under way at 2 o'clock. Vessels from the fleet entered the harbor. At least two torpedo boat destroyers were seen. A boat destroyer succeeded in reaching Fort Preble, the innermost fortification and being picked up by searchlights and fired upon.

A launch and cutter were captured by the shore batteries. The cannonading continued at 2:35 a. m.

## SIGNAL CORPS LINES.

Telegraphic Communication in All Parts of Alaska.

Washington, Aug. 25.—Major Seriven, acting chief signal officer of the army, has been assigned to the telegraphic communication is now established in all parts of Alaska covered by the signal corps lines. Forest fires in the Tanana valley interrupted the building of the line for nearly two months, but the lines which were destroyed have been rebuilt and the government is now in telegraphic reach to the Yukon district, also with the Copper river country. The Alaska points are reached at present over the Canadian lines, an arrangement which has been made with the Canadian government for the use of these lines, but it is expected that a cable from Puget sound to Skagway and Valdez will give through connection with the United States and operated by the United States.

## POPULAR DEMONSTRATION.

Thousands of People Followed Garibaldi to the Grave.

Rome, Aug. 25.—The funeral of Menotti Garibaldi, the oldest son of the patriot hero, was held today and evoked a great popular demonstration of sympathy. For hours before the cortege was expected the streets were densely packed with people. The body was carried from the house and placed on a gun carriage by a party of Garibaldians in their striking red shirts. On the coffin was laid the red shirt, and a quantity of flowers. The procession, which was of a military character, was followed by a large number of Garibaldians carrying magnificent wreaths and fresh flowers.

Garibaldian veterans mustered in great force. Some of them had fought under Ricciotti Garibaldi, the dead man's brother. The cortege was followed by a large number of Garibaldians, the dead man's followers. They made this last effort to do honor to the man who had been so successful in the personal popularity of Menotti.

It is estimated that 50,000 persons witnessed the funeral procession.

## RICH GOLD FIELDS.

City of Mexico, Aug. 25.—Rich gold fields have been discovered about 100 miles west of the city of Oaxaca and 12 miles from the town of Ejutla. The ore found is said to assay up to \$50,000 a ton, and so great is the local excitement that cavalry has gone to guard the claims. The ledge is said to be fifteen feet wide.

## DEFENSE RESTS.

Georgetown, Ky., Aug. 25.—Caleb Powers resumed the stand today and denied various allegations of state witnesses. The defense rested its case at 11:40 o'clock.

## UNREQUITED LOVE.

Bloomington, Ill., Aug. 25.—Alice Sample of this city killed herself this morning by firing two bullets into her breast. Despondency over love affairs is reported.

## BLUE RIVER ROSE

## SINKS IN FLOOD

Cloudburst in the Vicinity of Marysville, Kan.

## GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

## FARMERS TOOK REFUGE IN THE TREETOPS.

MARYSVILLE, Kan., Aug. 25.—A cloudburst struck in this vicinity early today, causing the Big Blue river to rise sixteen feet within a few hours and sending a great flood of water south down the bottoms along that stream. Many inhabitants in the lowlands were driven from their homes and heavy damage to property was done. As far as known, but one death has been reported. Frederick Ivers of Baileyville was drowned near that town, going down with a bridge over a swollen stream.

Marysville was deluged and the bottoms were filled with water from three to fifteen feet deep. Fifty houses were almost entirely submerged, their inmates taking refuge in trees and on house-tops. Seventy-five persons had been rescued by boats at daylight, and by noon twenty others were taken to places of safety. The storm washed out the tracks of the Blue Valley branch of the Great Western for several miles, and wiped out the telegraph and telephone wires, cutting the town off from outside communication until long after dark.

The Sofia Post, the revolutionary organ, states that twelve Serbian officers have crossed the frontier to help the insurgents.

Damage at Other Points.

South of here at the town of Blue Rapids the Blue river rose to within a few inches of the highest point in the June rise, causing much damage to farm property.

At Topeka, Kan., truck fleets, a town of 1,000 people on the Vermillion river, east of here in the same county, driving the residents of the lowlands from their homes. Precipitation was heavy and today part of Vets is five feet under water. All the stores and perhaps twenty residences are inundated, and the damage at the place is estimated at \$50,000. The river is three miles wide.

Slight damage was done at Marietta, north of Marysville close to the Nebraska line.

The same storm struck Seneca, in the next county east, where four and three-quarters inches of water fell. It was the heaviest downpour since 1893 and it left the Nemaha river the highest for years. Many fields of corn were inundated. The Grand river went out and several miles of track and half a dozen culverts on that road were wrecked.

Kansas River Rising.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 25.—The Kansas river is slowly rising as a result of high water upstream. The river has been high for several days.

Rain is reported to be coming from the central portion of the state and more high water is expected.

## WORKS CLOSED DOWN.

Strike in the Telluride Mill at Colorado Springs.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Aug. 25.—The movement in the strike at the Telluride mill today was the calling of a day a non-union workman, who had incurred the dislike of the union men, was sent by some of them and as a result he resigned his position. Manager Farnham said he did not intend to discharge every union employee of the mill. The strike followed and the mill was closed. About 150 men are idle. The Telluride has heretofore employed union and non-union men indiscriminately.

## ANOTHER BIG OIL STRIKE IN THE SPRING VALLEY, WYO., DISTRICT

Evanston, Wyo., Aug. 25.—Confirmed reports have reached here from Spring Valley that the American Consolidated Oil company brought in a big oil well on Section 23 this morning and that the gas, becoming too high, caused a fire in the engine room, nearly resulting in the loss of their rig. The drill tapped the oil sands at 560 feet and the oil gushers, the blowers, and the derricks, running down the hillside and collecting in a pool some half-mile away. A great deal of gas accompanied the flow of oil and in an instant the structure was surrounded by a sea of flames. The two derricks were in great danger of being blown over and the oil continued to flow from the well for several hours, finally receding to the top of the well. The point where the well was pumped out to a point about 100 feet from the top of the well, but constant pumping failed to lower it beyond this point.

The well is considered the best one in the field and is placed all the way from a 50 to 200-barrel well. Your correspondent was on the ground today and saw the well being pumped and the gas, becoming too high, caused a fire in the engine room, nearly resulting in the loss of their rig. The drill tapped the oil sands at 560 feet and the oil gushers, the blowers, and the derricks, running down the hillside and collecting in a pool some half-mile away. A great deal of gas accompanied the flow of oil and in an instant the structure was surrounded by a sea of flames. The two derricks were in great danger of being blown over and the oil continued to flow from the well for several hours, finally receding to the top of the well. The point where the well was pumped out to a point about 100 feet from the top of the well, but constant pumping failed to lower it beyond this point.

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